

CHRISTIAN GUARDIAN

PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE WESLEYAN-METHODIST CHURCH IN CANADA.

Vol. X.—No. 49.]

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1839.

[Whole No. 517.]

CHRISTIAN GUARDIAN:

DEVOTED TO RELIGION, MORALITY, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, COMMERCE, AGRICULTURE, DOMESTIC ECONOMY, AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

Published every Wednesday, in the City of Toronto, U. Canada, at No. 9, Wellington Buildings, King Street.

Christian Guardian.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1839.

THE PIOUS OBSERVER.

CHRISTIAN PERSEVERANCE.

No fact of the present age is more obvious than the daily augmentation of apostates from the Christian faith; and it is a moral phenomenon enough to make even angels weep.

The question occurs, "How comes it to pass that so many cast away their faith?" Through this is an important question, it is one soon answered, and we shall be in possession of the answer, after we have opened two very instructive volumes—that of Christian experience, and that of divine Providence.

Holy enquirers! having obtained your attention to your deliverances, dangers, and duties, we ask you to contemplate the rewards of consecration. You tread a desert soil; but the farther you go, the nearer are you to Jordan; and when you shall reach its margin, your Joabims will be there, and though your feet may tremble when it touches the stream, others that have gone before shall be looking out for you.

Remember your DELIVERANCES.—you were born in a state of bondage, and your transgressions have made the heart guilty. The Israelites had to endure an iron bondage in Pharaoh's dominions, but yours was a worse state than theirs, even the vassalage of the immortal man; the will, the judgement, the affections, were all enthralled.

You have been apprised of the opening of the Conference at Liverpool, and of the appointment of Mr. Lessey as the President. That gentleman presided with much dignity, and, I believe, gave great satisfaction to the members.

Friday afternoon was a very solemn session. It was to receive the names of those ministers who had died during the year. The whole number of deaths is thirty-two; to wit, nineteen in England, seven in Ireland, and six in the Foreign Missions.

Another means to this end, is a vigilant cognizance of present dangers. Banyan, in his excellent and eccentric book, has, very naturally, his hill Difficulty, and he says, "I looked then after Christian; to see him go up the hill, where I perceived he fell from running to going, and from going to clambering upon his hands and knees, because of the steepness of the place."

The sermon then followed, founded 1 Cor. i. 26-31. It occupied in delivery two hours and fifty three minutes, and no one appeared disposed to move while it was delivering. The impression produced was of the highest order.

too many have looked back, and said in a complaining mood, as they did, "There is nothing beside this manna." Christian! The world is your foe, and if you fall in circumsppection, its carthiness will adhere to you.—There are the prospects of fear and gloom which death presents. The announcement—"thou must die!" is little less than death to the unregenerate man.

To secure the Christian's incessant devotedness, we advert to his duties. These are multifarious, and must be pondered and practised. What command is it with which he should be most conversant? Verily this—"So run, that ye may obtain." This, like every other, must be received as coming from the God of Israel.

Holy enquirers! having obtained your attention to your deliverances, dangers, and duties, we ask you to contemplate the rewards of consecration. You tread a desert soil; but the farther you go, the nearer are you to Jordan; and when you shall reach its margin, your Joabims will be there, and though your feet may tremble when it touches the stream, others that have gone before shall be looking out for you.

THE BRITISH CONFERENCE. On board steam-ship Great Western, Atlantic Ocean, September, 1839.

Dear Brethren,—I am now about one thousand miles from England on my way to favoured America; and while I am bearing, with all the fortitude which I can command, a tremendous gale of wind, all thought occurs that you will be gratified to hear of some events which have transpired in England during the session of the Conference which has just terminated.

Before I proceed farther, permit me to inform you, and through your journal the thousands of your readers, that they may expect the pleasure of seeing in America next spring that distinguished minister, the Rev. ROBERT NEWTON—that gentleman having been requested by the Conference to represent the Wesleyan body at the General Conference, to be held in Baltimore next May.

The Rev. Dr. OLIN was then introduced as a member of one of the Conferences in the United States, and took his seat on the platform. Wednesday, Thursday, and nearly the whole of Friday, were occupied in examination of candidates—those who had stood out their probation. The number of candidates recommended from the Home and Foreign stations was unusually large, amounting to one hundred and twenty; sixty-eight of whom offer for the home work, and fifty-two for the missionary services.

Friday afternoon was a very solemn session. It was to receive the names of those ministers who had died during the year. The whole number of deaths is thirty-two; to wit, nineteen in England, seven in Ireland, and six in the Foreign Missions.

Another means to this end, is a vigilant cognizance of present dangers. Banyan, in his excellent and eccentric book, has, very naturally, his hill Difficulty, and he says, "I looked then after Christian; to see him go up the hill, where I perceived he fell from running to going, and from going to clambering upon his hands and knees, because of the steepness of the place."

The sermon then followed, founded 1 Cor. i. 26-31. It occupied in delivery two hours and fifty three minutes, and no one appeared disposed to move while it was delivering. The impression produced was of the highest order.

On Monday the President stated that the Rev. Dr. Olin was about to return to America, and wished, in taking leave, to address a few words to the Conference, which he did in a truly Methodist and affecting manner.

ascending from our respective shores, we shall meet in our Father's house in heaven!"

In the afternoon the Conference took up the subject of dividing circuits. Thursday the same subject was continued, which was followed by the report of the Theological Institution. I had the opportunity of going over this institution. It appears to be well adapted to a limited number of students, but too small for the present wants.

On Friday the question came up, "Who shall be placed on the list of supernumeraries?" The ordination of fifty-two young preachers was an important service, and one of much interest. The president addressed them in an impressive manner, and then called on each to give an evidence of his call to the ministry.

Mr. Marsden rose, and after an address full of Christian affection toward the American Methodists, he said—"We are, Mr. President, of one family—from one common stock, and we wish all to promote union among the Methodists throughout the world, and to strengthen the union between the two great countries, England and America. I propose that our respected secretary, the Rev. Robert Newton, be requested to become the representative of the British Conference to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in America, which will assemble in the city of Baltimore early in May next."

The resolution to send a representative was unanimously adopted; and, on motion of Dr. Bunting, Rev. Dr. Hannah was requested to prepare a letter to the General Conference of the United States, to be presented by the Rev. Robert Newton, or otherwise sent, as circumstances may require.

It is not unexpected should prevent, I have every reason to think that Mr. Newton will comply with the request of his brethren, and be with you at your General Conference.

Thursday, the 15th of August, was chiefly spent in consideration of the important subject which has been before parliament, the "plans of education, as proposed by the recently appointed committee of Her Majesty's privy council." Resolutions were passed highly disapproving the whole plan, and after adopting sundry resolutions appertaining to the Centenary, the Conference adjourned.

THE CENTENARY FUND. The centenary fund amounts to upwards of one million of dollars; and at the recent conference the general treasurer reported the amount he had received, which was four hundred and ninety four thousand five hundred and ninety two dollars!

Isaac Newton was born in Lincolnshire, England, 1642. He has been pronounced "a most celebrated philosopher and mathematician, and one of the greatest geniuses that ever appeared in the world."

His powers of mind were wonderfully comprehensive and penetrating. Poncelet says of him, "that in learning mathematics, he did not study Euclid, who seemed to him too plain and simple, and unworthy of taking up his time. He understood him almost before he read him; and cast his eye on the contents of the theorems of that great mathematician, seemed to be sufficient to make him master of them."

A biographer says, "To his other great qualities, he added the virtues of piety, and religious infidelity he marked with abhorrence; no remark of levity or indifference on the powers of the Deity, or on Revelation, ever was made in his presence without drawing from him the severest censure; and while he made the Bible his favorite study, he employed some portion of his time in proving the great truths of the prophetic writers of Scripture."

Permit me to add the testimony of the pious and learned Dr. Doddridge, to this, the most interesting part of this great man's character. "According to the best information," says he, "whether public or private, I could ever obtain, his firm faith in the Divine Revelation, discovered itself in the most genuine fruits of substantial virtue and piety; and consequently gives us the justest reason to conclude that he is now rejoicing in the happy effects of it infinitely more than in all the applause which his philosophical works have produced him, though they have commanded a fame lasting as the world."

MARRIAGE OF A DEAF AND DUMB COUPLE. On Wednesday, 31st ult. Mr. J. R. Burnett, of Livingston, N. Y., a deaf mute, was married by the Rev. Dr. Milnor at the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb in New York, to Miss Phoebe Osborne, of Canisteo, N. Y., a pupil of the Institution.

At half past nine, A. M. the bride and her maids were dressed and decked with flowers, and the bridegroom and several of his relatives and friends arrived in carriages from town. Four pretty deaf mute girls officiated as brides maids, accompanied by two deaf mute young men, and two of the young gentlemen professors of the Institution.

At half past nine, A. M. the bride and her maids were dressed and decked with flowers, and the bridegroom and several of his relatives and friends arrived in carriages from town. Four pretty deaf mute girls officiated as brides maids, accompanied by two deaf mute young men, and two of the young gentlemen professors of the Institution.

phatic determination directly to the officiating clergyman, each in turn coming to say, "Yes, surely and I mean it too." The solemnities of the occasion were terminated by prayers and the benediction by Dr. Milnor and Mr. Peet in words and in signs; then following the usual salutations, refreshments, &c.; and at eleven the bride, after taking an affectionate leave of her fellow-pupils, her instructors and friends at the institution, departed with her husband and his friends to her new home west of the Passaic.

PROTESTANT MONUMENT.

Some of the Protestants of England are about to erect at Oxford, by voluntary subscription, a monument in honour of three of the greatest names in the records of that age, and to be commensurate in grandeur and design, and skill in execution, with the vastness of the occasion, as well as worthy of a generous Protestant community. The following is to be the inscription:

To the Glory of God, and in grateful commemoration of His Servants,

Thomas Cranmer, Nicholas Ridley, Hugh Latimer, Prelates of the Church of England,

Who, near this spot, yielded their Bodies to be burned; bearing witness to the sacred Truths which they had affirmed and maintained against the

Errors of the Church of Rome; and rejoicing that to them it was given, not only to believe in Christ, but also to suffer for His sake;

This Monument was erected by public subscription, in the year of our Lord God, MDCCLXXXIX.

AN IRISH PATRIARCH.—The June number of the Wesleyan Magazine notices the death of the Rev. Gideon Ouseley, one of the most extraordinary men of the first Century of Methodism, more than three fourths of which he lived to see. He was liberally educated, self-denying, and zealous; preaching to the native Irish in their vernacular tongue, on all occasions, in season and out of season.

THE YOUTH'S FRIEND.

"REMEMBER NOW THY CREATOR IN THE DAYS OF THY YOUTH."

TO THE CHILDREN OF PIOUS PARENTS. (From a Sermon to the Young by Rev. R. Treffry, jr.)

Some of my young hearers, I shall venture to surmise, have so far come under the influence of Christian instruction, as to be disposed to regard that which is good with approval and complacency; although they have not fully and decidedly given themselves up to God and His church. Allow me to remind you of the disadvantages of such a taste of character. You have the obloquy of religion without its enjoyments, and the painful feelings of sin without its pleasures.

CHILDREN CONCERNED IN THE CENTENARY.

Among the subscriptions to the Centenary Fund in England, we find the following touching items:

Table with 2 columns: Item description and Amount. Includes entries like 'Six children, 20¢ each', 'Robert Colling, in memory of his dear Mother', etc.

Our young friends in CANADA, on reading these pleasing records, will perhaps like to testify their attachment to Methodism; if so, we shall be happy indeed to receive their subscriptions.—ED. GUAR.

THE CHILDREN'S FLEDGE.

History informs us that when Haman, the father of Hannibal, would impress upon the heart of his boy, the future Carthaginian general, hatred to the Romans, he took him to the altar of his gods, and there made him swear eternal hostility to Rome. The eagery of the act was equal to its depravity. The Christian father, when he leads his son, the pride of his present, and the hope of his future years, to the altar of the true God, teaches him to love all mankind, and, for that reason, to hate that which is fitted to entail misery, instead of bestowing happiness on the human race.

The following pattern of an original pledge—if I may so call it—was presented at the late Sabbath celebration of the Fourth of July, in Alexandria, with upwards of seventy youthful names signed to it. Let every parent cut it from the paper, append a strip of white paper to it, and ask all his children to sign it.

THE FLEDGE.

Table with 2 columns: Pledge text and corresponding action. Includes entries like 'This little hand—No! I shan't run', 'Do with our hand—To turn my home', etc.

A KROO BOY'S LETTER TO THE REV. J. J. MATTHIAS.

Dear Father,—I take this opportunity to write to you. Kroo people and American fight war. Bob Grey people want to kill me, but Mr. Croker and Dr. Johnson do not want. Our people and American they go Joe Harris, please they shake hands now. Mr. Clarke and Mr. Croker treat us well. Mr. Croker have nineteen boys, Mr. tell us God palaver all time. I try to pray God for give me new heart; I try to cypher subtraction, and I study geography, read, study and spell too. Dear Father, please give me a cap and a pen knife, and trousers, and suspenders, and Bible. Remember your friend, JOHN MATTHIAS, Kroo boy.

THE VOICE OF HOME TO THE PRODIGAL.

Table with 2 columns: Question/Statement and Answer. Includes entries like 'Oh! when wilt thou return? Give back thy heart again', 'To thy spirit's early loves? To the freedom of the winds', etc.





